

WILMERHALE

January 8, 2014

Boyd M. Johnson III

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
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Washington, DC, 20510

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The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
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Washington, DC, 20510

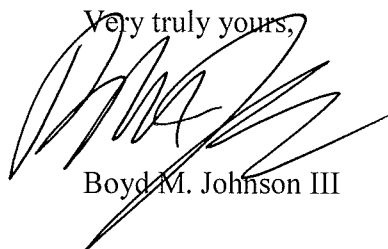
Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am currently a partner in the Litigation Department of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr in New York. Before joining the firm, I worked for 13 years as a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. During my tenure as a federal prosecutor, I worked with law enforcement officers on a daily basis to investigate and prosecute narcotics trafficking, public corruption, terrorism, and other crimes. During 2009-2011, I served as the Deputy United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, supervising more than 180 federal prosecutors and all criminal and civil matters filed by the United States in the District. I write to provide my enthusiastic support of the nomination of Debo P. Adegbile for Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

I have known Debo for more than 20 years. Over this time, I have come to know him not only as a brilliant, hard-working lawyer, but also as a honest and caring person with the utmost integrity. While Debo is a fierce defender of the United States Constitution, he also is fair-minded and has tremendous judgment, two qualities that would serve him well as the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. I am confident that Debo will bring a principled and measured approach to this important position.

In sum, I can think of no better person to head the Civil Rights Division than Debo. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information in support of his nomination.

Very truly yours,



Boyd M. Johnson III